NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 6, 2003

GRAND JURY RETURNS INDICTMENTS

Topeka, Kan. – United States Attorney Eric Melgren announced that five individuals were indicted on Thursday, November 6, 2003, by a federal grand jury in Topeka, Kansas. Those indicted include:

! Melva L. Fulton, 30, Topeka, Kansas, is charged with five counts of making a false statement to the Topeka Housing Authority about her income that was used to determine her rental subsidy between August 1999 and July 29, 2002; one count of withholding information from the Topeka Housing Authority about her income from employment between August 1999 and July 29, 2002, in order to continue to receive rental subsidies; and one count of embezzling money from the United States by receiving rental subsidies to which she was not entitled between August 1999 and July 29, 2002.

If convicted, Fulton faces a maximum of five years in federal prison, without parole, for making false statements and withholding information and a maximum of ten years for embezzling money. The case was investigated by the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

! Jose Soto, 46, Compton, California, currently in custody, is charged with one count of possession with the intent to distribute in excess of five-hundred grams (in excess of 1.1 pounds) of cocaine on October 10, 2003, in Lyon County, Kansas.

If convicted, Soto faces a minimum of five years and a maximum of forty years in federal prison without parole. Soto is scheduled to make his initial appearance in U.S. District Court in Topeka, Kansas, on November 13, 2003, at 10:30 a.m. The case was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Lyon County Sheriff's Office.

! Corey James Hall, 26, Topeka, Kansas, currently in custody, is charged with one count of being a felon in possession of a semi-automatic pistol on April 6, 2003, in Shawnee County, Kansas.

If convicted, Hall faces a maximum of ten years in federal prison without parole. The case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives Task Force.

! Miguel A. Lozoya-Ramirez, 42, El Paso, Texas, and Maria Del Carmen Lozoya, 49, El Paso, Texas, both currently in custody, are each charged with one count of possession with the intent to distribute approximately 10 kilograms (approximately 22 pounds) of cocaine on November 1, 2003, and one count of travel in interstate commerce to promote an unlawful activity, possession with the intent to distribute cocaine on November 1, 2003, both in Sedgwick County, Kansas.

If convicted, each face a minimum of ten years and a maximum of life in federal prison, without parole, for possession with the intent to distribute cocaine and a maximum of five years for travel in interstate commerce to promote an unlawful activity. The case was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Kansas Highway Patrol and is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Mona Furst.

As in any criminal case, a person is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty. The Indictments filed merely contain allegations of criminal conduct.